

# JJ&RA - JUVENILE REHABILITATION

## Juvenile Court Funding

### 2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET



Reduction Option	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)
GF-State	(\$1,048,000)	(\$1,048,000)	(\$2,096,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$1,048,000)</b>	<b>(\$1,048,000)</b>	<b>(\$2,096,000)</b>

#### REDUCTION OPTION SUMMARY

As required by 2015-17 Biennial Budget Instructions, the Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJRA) is submitting the following reduction option that would eliminate 5.5 percent of the juvenile court pass through funding, resulting in a reduction in direct services to youth as well as a reduction in FTEs in both JJRA and county staff. By implementing this reduction, JJRA expects over 220 fewer juvenile court and tribal youth to be served in Evidence-based programs (EBPs), disposition alternatives and probation.

#### REDUCTION OPTION DETAIL

Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) currently administers pass through funds to the 33 county juvenile courts each biennium. Being a decentralized state (separate state and county governments), this funding provides an avenue and structure for a juvenile justice continuum of care. The funding is allocated to each court in the form of a Block Grant which allows the juvenile court the maximum amount of flexibility to serve the youth in their jurisdiction. Each year up to 4,000 youth are served statewide. The funding is specifically provided for the following services:

- Consolidated Juvenile Services (CJS) – probation supervision and other specialized services
- Community Juvenile Accountability Act (CJAA) and Evidence Based Expansion (EBE) – Evidenced-based programming and quality assurance
- Disposition Alternatives – In lieu of incarceration, specialized treatment and community supervision to include:
  - Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative (CDDA)
  - Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative (SSODA)
  - Suspended Disposition Alternative (SDA)
  - Mental Health Disposition Alternative (MHDA)

The juvenile courts and JR are invested in programs that keep youth from further penetrating the criminal justice system. Disposition alternatives keep youth out of state operated institutions by allowing them to remain in the community and receive specialized treatment. EBPs are those that, through scientific evaluation and rigorous outcome studies, have demonstrated effectiveness and have shown to significantly reduce the future recidivism rates for youth



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that receive these services. The implementation by juvenile courts of these types of programs has been a driver in the decrease in JR's residential population since the mid-to-late 1990s.

A 5.5 percent reduction to the services listed above could create increased long term costs to the state as these programs have demonstrated both immediate cost savings as well as long term effects of reduced future crimes for those youth who participate. The reduction would also impact 0.4 FTE in JJRA associated with the block grant. It is particularly important to note that any prison reduction forecast relies heavily on these programs and the number of youth served.

### STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

This reduction will impact many stakeholders and they are as follows:

- Legislators may have concerns about this proposed reduction. EBPs continue to be at the forefront of legislative decision making. The 2012 Substitute House Bill 2536, *Children and Juvenile Services-Evidence-based Practices*, tasked the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to increase the use of evidence-based and research-based practices with children and juveniles.
- Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators (WAJCA) will have concerns due to impacts to their staff and fewer youth being served in their local communities.
- Superior Court Judges Association (SCJA) will have concerns based on the impacts to juvenile court staff and youth served in their judicial districts.
- Federally recognized tribes and Recognized American Indian Organizations will have concerns with this proposed reduction due to fewer dollars being available to implement programs with research-based components.



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